statement is laid on the Table of the House..

**Statement**

(a) Statement showing variety-wise exports of cotton handloom fabrics and made ups during the last three years is attached as Annexure-I. These handloom products are exported to nearly 125 countries of the world. Region-wise exports of cotton handloom products is attached as Annexure. [*See* Appendix CLX, Annexure No. 42 and 43]

(b) Government have been taking a number of steps to boost exports of cotton handloom products which include sending trade delegations, conducting market studies and market research, releasing advertisements in foreign trade magazines and distribution of publicity materials, participation in fairs in major markets, quality improvements and grant of export incentives etc. Besides, Handloom Export Promotion Council has recently undertaken a programme for upgradation of handloom production facilities mainly for exports in coordination with the Weavers Service Centres, Directorate of Handlooms and other concerned organisations.

(c) Handloom fabrics are not subject to quota restrictions in any of the countries with whom India has entered into Bilateral Textile Agreements. Handloom made ups are also not subject to any quantitative restrictions except in USA. In USA category 369 (other cotton made-ups) which covers mill-made, powerloom and handloom products carries annual quota levels since 1989. The quota for category 369 for 1991 is 8.47 million Kgs.

(d) Exports of handloom fabrics and made ups enjoy special treatment like quota exemption, exemption or concession in duly in certain countries provided such consignments are accompanied by a special handloom certification by the Textiles Committee. For the purpose of issuing above special certificates the Textiles Committee carries out limited pre-shipment inspection of consignments for ensuring handloom origin of the material. As per Import Export Policy Customs authorities clear such consignments only on production of necessary certification by the Textiles Committee.

(e) It has been reported that since powerloom units are in decentralised sector and the products of such units are sold in the market after processing, they are not required to be marked at the loom stage. However, if the grey fabrics are meant for sale to the consumer directly, the same is required to be marked.

**Setting up of a National Resource Centre for Women**

*220. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Resource Centre for women has been set up;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, by when it is proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It is proposed to set up a National Resource Centre for Women during the Eighth Five Year Plan period.

**Schemes of Savings through Post Offices**

1051. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of saving schemes have been launched through Post Offices during July and August, 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is eligibility to join these schemes;

(d) whether these schemes have any age limit for investors;

(e) what are the formalities for the investors to join these schemes;

(f) whether Government have taken any measures to ensure that large number of people join these schemes; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (g) Do not arise.

**Civilian Official on security duty during elections**

1052. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that civilian clerical officials have been put on security duty in the Eelction Commission of India;

(b) whether under Government rules civilian officials can be put on security job;

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative whether the action taken by the Election Commission in putting the civilian clerical staff on security duty will be reversed; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) In view of the security risk in Election Commission, some civilian clerical officials have been put on duty to verify the valid passes etc., of the visitors and thus provide back upto the Reception Office and coordinate with the security staff.

(b) There is no Government rule precluding utilisation of civilian officials for such purposes.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

**NIC functioning in Election Commission**

1053. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Informatics Centre started functioning in Election Commission Office during the General Elections held recently;

(b) if so, whether National Informatics Centre is still functioning there; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the withdrawal of the services of National Informatics Centre during the middle of the elections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Election Commission was able to utilise the NIC's NICNET services for receiving messages even without continuing a Centre in the Commission's office.

**Renovation of room of Chief Election Commissioner**

1054. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of expenditure incurred on the renovation